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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/066,749	02/06/2002	Ji Yong Kim	P67577US0	4774
43569	7590	07/18/2005	EXAMINER	
MAYER, BROWN, ROWE & MAW LLP 1909 K STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20006			SCUDERI, PHILIP S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2153	

DATE MAILED: 07/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/066,749

Applicant(s)

KIM ET AL.

Examiner

Philip S. Scuderi

Art Unit

2153

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 June 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to applicant's amendment filed June 8, 2005. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, and 11 are amended. Claims 12-16 are new claims.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed June 8, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
3. Applicant notes that Busey does not teach or suggest an IRC server that distributes an event occurrence control message. However, Mirashrafi teaches distributing an event occurrence control message [col. 4 lines 22-23 (the URL of a requested page)]. Similarly, Busey teaches distributing the URL of a page [fig. 4A-J] using a server implementing the IRC protocol [fig. 1 (148), col. 3 lines 61-64]. It would have been obvious to simply adapt the Bridgeport taught by Mirashrafi to implement the IRC protocol because IRC is a continuously open packet protocol [Busey col. 3 lines 30-31] and could therefore provide what appears to users to be real time communication [Busey col. 3 lines 26-31].
4. The only feature recited in claim 1 that Mirashrafi lacks is that the Bridgeport specifically communicates using the IRC protocol (which would make the Bridgeport an IRC server). Thus, for the reasons above and contrary to applicant's contention, Mirashrafi in view of Busey does teach "a Web collaborative browsing method that includes sending a created control message to an IRC server over a network such that the IRC server that receives the sent event occurrence control message, transfers the received control message to a plurality of clients participating in said collaborative browsing session opened by the collaborative browsing client", as recited in claim 1.

Drawings

5. Examiner acknowledges that figure 1 has been designated as prior art and that the specification has been amended to include reference numerals 333, 404-409, 416, and 432-436, and has accordingly withdrawn the drawing objections.

Claim Objections

6. Examiner has withdrawn the claim objections because applicant's amendments have overcome the objections. However, the following objection applies to the amended claims.

7. Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informality: "one of said session participating client" in subparagraph (d)(3) lines 2 and 3. Examiner suggests "one of said session participating clients". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

8. Examiner has withdrawn the rejections under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph because applicant's amendments have overcome the rejections. However, the following rejections apply to the new claims.

9. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

10. Claims 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claims recite the limitation "The program as set forth in claim 1" which lacks antecedent support.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-13, and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mirashrafi et al. (U.S. 6,199,096, hereinafter "Mirashrafi") in view of Busey et al. (U.S. 6,785,708, hereinafter "Busey").

13. With respect to claim 1, Mirashrafi discloses a Web collaborative browsing method using a server [fig. 1 Bridgeport #103] comprising the following steps, said method comprising:

a), by a collaborative browsing client, opening a collaborative browsing session [col. 3 lines 18-25];

b), by said collaborative browsing client, creating a control message corresponding to an event [col. 4 lines 22-23, The event is entering a URL into a browser in a collaborative browsing session.] if the event occurs while said client is connected to a Web server to conduct Web surfing [col. 4 lines 17-19], after said collaborative browsing session is opened [col. 4 lines 9-19], and then sending the created control message to said server [col. 4 lines 22-23, The URL is sent to the Bridgeport.] over a network [fig. 1 #150];

c), by said server, receiving the sent event occurrence control message [col. 4 lines 22-23] and transferring the received control message to a plurality of clients participating in said collaborative browsing session opened by said collaborative browsing client [col. 4 lines 23-25]; and

d), by a collaborative browsing component program of each of said session participating clients, instructing a Web browser of a corresponding one of said session participating clients in response to said control message to request the same event as that having occurred in said collaborative browsing client, from said Web server [col. 4 lines 28-30].

Mirashrafi does not expressly disclose using an Internet relay chat (IRC) protocol or that the server is a standard IRC server. Nonetheless, a Web collaborative browsing method using an Internet relay chat (IRC) protocol and a standard IRC server was well known in the art, as evidenced by Busey. In a similar art, Busey discloses a Web collaborative browsing method [abstract lines 1-5] using an Internet relay chat (IRC) protocol and a standard IRC server [col. 3 lines 61-64]. Given the teachings of Busey it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a standard IRC server that uses an Internet relay chat (IRC) protocol for performing the Web collaborative browsing method. The motivation for doing so would have been because IRC is a continuously open packet protocol [Busey col. 3 lines 30-31] and could therefore provide what appears to users to be real time communication [Busey col. 3 lines 26-31].

14. With respect to claims 2 and 12, Mirashrafi in view of Busey teaches the method applied to claim 1. Mirashrafi further discloses that step b) includes:

b-1) detecting said event if it occurs in a Web browser of said collaborative browsing client [col. 4 lines 21-22] while said collaborative browsing client is connected to said Web server via said Web browser thereof to conduct the Web surfing [col. 4 lines 17-19];

b-2) analyzing the contents of the detected event [col. 4 line 22];

b-3) creating said control message corresponding to the analyzed event contents [col. 4 lines 22-23]; and

b-4) sending the created control message to said server (an IRC server in view of Busey, as applied to claim 1) over said network [col. 4 lines 22-23].

15. With respect to claims 3 and 13, Mirashrafi in view of Busey teaches the method applied to claim 1. Mirashrafi further discloses that said network is a wired network [fig. 4 #440, col. 5 lines 41-44].

16. With respect to claims 5 and 15, Mirashrafi in view of Busey teaches the method applied to claim 1. Busey further discloses that it was well known to implement a collaborative browsing component program with ActiveX [col. 6 lines 6-9]. Given the further teachings of Busey it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement the collaborative browsing program using ActiveX. The motivation for doing so would have been to have the collaborative browsing component program instruct the Web browser to acquire a Web page [Busey col. 6 lines 6-8].

17. With respect to claims 6 and 16, Mirashrafi in view of Busey teaches the method applied to claim 1. Mirashrafi further discloses that said event includes a Web document request event [fig. 2 #205].

18. With respect to claim 7, Mirashrafi discloses a Web collaborative browsing system using a server [fig. 1 Bridgeport #103], said system comprising:

event occurrence processing means for creating a control message corresponding to a type of event [col. 4 lines 22-23, The event is entering a URL into a browser during a collaborative

browsing session.] if the event occurs in a Web browser of a collaborative browsing client while said client is connected to a Web server via said Web browser to conduct Web surfing [col. 4 lines 17-19], and then sending the created control message to said server [col. 4 lines 22-23, The URL is sent to the Bridgeport.]; and

event synchronization means for receiving said control message via said server [col. 4 lines 22-23] and instructing a corresponding Web browser in response to the received control message to request the same event as that having occurred in said collaborative browsing client, from said Web server [col. 4 lines 23-30].

Mirashrafi does not expressly disclose using an Internet relay chat (IRC) protocol or that the server is a standard IRC server. Nonetheless, a Web collaborative browsing method using an Internet relay chat (IRC) protocol and a standard IRC server was well known in the art, as evidenced by Busey. In a similar art, Busey discloses a Web collaborative browsing method [abstract lines 1-5] using an Internet relay chat (IRC) protocol and a standard IRC server [col. 3 lines 61-64]. Given the teachings of Busey it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a standard IRC server that uses an Internet relay chat (IRC) protocol for performing the Web collaborative browsing method. The motivation for doing so would have been because IRC is a continuously open packet protocol [Busey col. 3 lines 30-31] and could therefore provide what appears to users to be real time communication [Busey col. 3 lines 26-31].

19. With respect to claim 10, Mirashrafi in view of Busey teaches the system applied to claim 7. Mirashrafi further discloses that said event includes a Web document request event [fig. 2 #205].

20. With respect to claim 11, Mirashrafi in view of Busey teaches the method applied to claim 1. Mirashrafi further discloses a digital processor-readable storage medium [fig. 6 #608] for storing a program composed of commands executable by a digital processor [fig. 6 #602] to perform the Web collaborative browsing method taught by claim 1 [Col. 9 lines 53-56 disclose that the hardware elements of figure 6 are suitable to be deployed as a Bridgeport.].

21. Claims 4, 8, 9, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mirashrafi in view of Busey, and further in view of Esenther (U.S. Application Publication 2002/0138624).

22. With respect to claims 4 and 14, Mirashrafi in view of Busey teaches the method applied to claim 1. Mirashrafi further discloses that step d) includes:

d-1) receiving said control message from said server (an IRC server in view of Busey, as applied to claim 1) [col. 4 lines 23-25]; and

d-3) applying a command to a Web browser of a corresponding session participating client to instruct said corresponding session participating client to request the same event as that having occurred in said collaborative browsing client, from said Web server [col. 4 lines 28-30].

The instant teachings do not expressly teach analyzing the received control message to determine a type of said event having occurred in said collaborative browsing client and applying the command based on the determination result. The only event type expressly taught is updating a URL. Nonetheless, synchronizing other browsing events was well known in the art, as evidenced by Esenther. In a similar art, Esenther discloses a method for collaborative web browsing that

synchronizes a plurality of events [abstract lines 1-5], analyzes received control messages [¶60 lines 1-2] to determine a type of event having occurred in a collaborative browsing client [¶60 lines 3-6], and applies the a command based on the determination result [¶64]. Given the teachings of Esenther it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to synchronize browser events other than only URLs, to analyze the received control messages to determine a type of said event having occurred in said collaborative browsing client, and to apply the command based on the determination result. The motivation for doing so would have been so that users could synchronize significant states of their web browsers [Esenther abstract lines 1-5].

23. With respect to claim 8, Mirashrafi in view of Busey teaches the system applied to claim 7.

Mirashrafi further discloses that said event occurrence processing means includes:

an event occurrence detector for detecting said event [col. 4 lines 21-22] if said event occurs in said Web browser of said collaborative browsing client [col. 4 lines 21-22] while said client is connected to said Web server via said Web browser thereof to conduct Web surfing [col. 4 lines 17-19];

an event analyzer for analyzing the contents of the detected event [col. 4 lines 21-22]; and
a message sender for creating said control message corresponding to the analyzed event contents and sending the created control message to said server (an IRC server using the IRC protocol in view of Busey, as applied to claim 7) [col. 4 lines 21-23].

The instant teachings do not expressly teach analyzing the received control message to determine the type of said event. The only event type expressly taught is updating a URL. Nonetheless, synchronizing other browsing events was well known in the art, as evidenced by Esenther. In a similar art, Esenther discloses a method for collaborative web browsing that

synchronizes a plurality of events [abstract lines 1-5] and analyzes events to determine the event types [¶54 lines 1-7, The events must be analyzed to build the HTTP requests.]. Given the teachings of Esenther it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to synchronize browser events other than only URLs and to analyze the events to determine the event types. The motivation for doing so would have been so that users could synchronize significant states of their web browsers [Esenther abstract lines 1-5].

24. With respect to claim 9, Mirashrafi in view of Busey teaches the system applied to claim 7. Mirashrafi further discloses that said event synchronization means includes:

a message receiver for receiving said control message from said server (an IRC server in view of Busey, as applied to claim 7) [col. 4 lines 21-25]; and

an event requester for applying a command to said corresponding Web browser to instruct said corresponding Web browser to request the same event as that having occurred in said collaborative browsing client, from said Web server [inherent in view of col. 4 lines 28-30].

The instant teachings do not expressly teach a message analyzer for analyzing the received control message to determine a type of said event having occurred in said collaborative browsing client and applying the command based on the determination result. The only event type expressly taught is updating a URL. Nonetheless, synchronizing other browsing events was well known in the art, as evidenced by Esenther. In a similar art, Esenther discloses a method for collaborative web browsing that synchronizes a plurality of events [abstract lines 1-5], analyzes received control messages [¶60 lines 1-2] to determine a type of event having occurred in a collaborative browsing client [¶60 lines 3-6], and applies the a command based on the determination result [¶64]. Given the teachings of Esenther it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to

synchronize browser events other than only URLs, to provide a message analyzer for analyzing the received control messages to determine a type of said event having occurred in said collaborative browsing client, and to apply the command based on the determination result. The motivation for doing so would have been so that users' could synchronize significant states of their web browsers [Esenther abstract lines 1-5].

Conclusion

25. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

26. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

27. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip S. Scuderi whose telephone number is (571) 272-5865. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8am-5pm.

28. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton B. Burgess can be reached on (703) 305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

29. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PSS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dung C. Dinh', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Dung C. Dinh
Primary Examiner